AFRICA OIL+GAS REPORT

Azule Energy Opens EOI Process for Angola NGC Gas Facility O&M Services

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Azule Energy Limited has issued a formal invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from companies seeking to provide Operations and Maintenance (O&M) services for Angola's New Gas Consortium (NGC) facility. The announcement, published as a public tender notice, marks an early-stage procurement step that opens the door for qualified service providers to signal their capabilities ahead of a formal contracting process.

The New Gas Consortium represents a significant element of Angola's strategy to monetise its substantial associated and non-associated gas resources, reducing flaring and increasing domestic and export gas availability. Azule Energy, the joint venture between bp and Eni that stands as Angola's largest oil and gas producer, is the driving force behind this EOI process, reflecting its central role in the NGC project.

O&M services for a gas processing and handling facility of this nature typically encompass a broad scope, including equipment maintenance, instrumentation and control systems, rotating machinery upkeep, safety and inspection regimes, and the provision of skilled operations personnel. While the EOI notice does not detail the precise technical scope or contract duration at this stage, the process signals that the NGC facility is advancing toward operational readiness and that Azule is moving to put long-term service arrangements in place.

For international and regional service companies, the EOI stage is the critical entry point. Companies that fail to respond now risk being screened out before the formal

Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued. The NGC facility, as a gas-focused infrastructure asset, will require sustained, technically demanding O&M support over its operational life, making this a potentially long-duration engagement for the winning service provider or consortium.

Angola's gas sector has historically attracted less structured international service competition than its oil segment, partly due to the slower pace of gas infrastructure development. The NGC project changes that dynamic. With Angolan authorities and IOCs alike prioritising gas as both a revenue source and a tool for energy transition compliance, the operational demands on facilities like the NGC will be high, and service quality expectations will reflect that. Norwegian companies with relevant gas facility O&M credentials, local content partnerships, or established relationships with Azule or its parent entities are well positioned to respond to this EOI.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies with gas facility O&M capabilities should treat this EOI as a time-sensitive qualification opportunity — non-response at this stage typically results in exclusion from the formal tender. Companies without a standalone Angola footprint should consider responding through a joint venture with a locally established Angolan partner to satisfy likely local content requirements. Saga recommends monitoring for the follow-on RFP, which will define the full commercial and technical scope.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Service:** Rotating equipment, instrumentation, and gas plant maintenance specialists should submit EOIs now to remain in the qualification pipeline for the NGC O&M contract.
- **LNG:** Companies experienced in gas processing and handling facility operations can leverage NGC as an entry point into Angola's expanding gas infrastructure sector.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Integrated service providers already active on Azule's offshore assets should assess whether their existing Angola relationships can support a competitive NGC O&M bid.

- **Drilling:** Well services companies with broader Angola presence should monitor whether NGC facility scope extends to any upstream gas well maintenance or workover requirements.
- **Pipeline:** Companies with gas pipeline and surface facilities O&M experience should evaluate NGC as a potential long-duration asset management opportunity in Angola's growing gas network.

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